

WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

October, 1946.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st.
December, 1945

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

CATHERINE AVERY.

M.D.(London) B.S.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area 110,436 acres.
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1945 £257,277
Sum represented by a penny rate £1068.
Population 35,410.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male.		Female.		Total.	
	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944
Live Births (Legitimate)	332	348	295	318	627	666
Live Births (Illegitimate)	36	26	26	28	62	54
Total Live Births	368	374	321	346	689	720

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 19.4 compared with 16.1 for the whole of England and Wales.

	Male.		Female.		Total.	
	1945	1944	1945	1944	M.&F. 1945	M.&F. 1944
Still Births (Legitimate)	8	7	4	6	12	13
Still Births (Illegitimate)	2	0	3	0	5	0
	10	7	7	6	17	13

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 0.48 compared with 0.46 for the whole of England and Wales.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths	221	175	396

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 11.1 compared with 11.4 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

No. 29. Puerperal sepsis One
No. 30. Other Maternal causes Nil.

Death from Cancer (all ages) 56.
Death from Measles (all ages) 0.
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages) 1.
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 5.

The Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age is 53.7 per 1,000 live births, compared with 46.0 for the whole of England and Wales.

Causes of Death (All Ages)		Male	Female
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	-	1
4.	Whooping Cough	-	-
5.	Diphtheria	4	5
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	-
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-
8.	Syphilitic diseases	1	1
9.	Influenza	-	-
10.	Measles	-	-
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis (Infantile Paralysis)	-	1
12.	Acute Infective Encephalitis (Sleepy Sickness)	-	-
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M)	4	-
	Uterus (F)	-	1
14.	Cancer of stomach and Duodenum	8	2
15.	Cancer of breast	-	5
16.	Cancer of all other sites	21	15
17.	Diabetes	1	4
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	15	23
19.	Heart disease	58	45
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system	4	8
21.	Bronchitis	16	4
22.	Pneumonia	10	9
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	4	1
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	4	-
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	3	2
26.	Appendicitis	-	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	4	3
28.	Nephritis	7	9
29.	Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	-	1
30.	Other maternal causes	-	-
31.	Premature Birth	3	9
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ..	13	3
33.	Suicide	-	-
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	1	-
35.	Other Violent Causes	5	2
36.	All Other Causes	31	20
All Causes		221	175

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

	Male	Female
Legitimate	16	16
Illegitimate	4	1
	20.	17

The deaths in the above table include residents who died outside and exclude non-residents who died within the District. Non-civilians are excluded.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives particulars of infectious diseases notified, excluding tuberculosis for which a separate table is given:-

Disease	Notified.	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	49	26	-
Diphtheria	2	2	-
Pneumonia	23	2	19
Erysipelas	8	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	1
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	-	-	-
Infantile Paralysis (Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis)	1	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	-
Measles	675	12	-
Whooping Cough	115	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-

Only certain forms of Pneumonia are notifiable, but the deaths recorded above are from all forms.

The case of Cerebro-spinal Fever and all cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been visited and advice given as to the necessary medical precautions for disinfection to be taken.

Scarlet Fever.

Forty-nine cases were notified, compared with fifty-five the previous year.

The incidence of the disease within the district was 1.38 per 1,000 population compared with 1.89 throughout England and Wales.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

The one case occurred in a child of eight years of age who made a good recovery.

Diphtheria.

Two cases were notified. One occurred in an adult who was not immunised and the other in a child of 13 years of age who was immunised.

Anti-toxin. Anti-toxin for the treatment of diphtheria is supplied free to those General Practitioners who apply for it. It is stored at convenient parts of the district.

Immunisation. This is given by this Council free to all children in the District from the age of one year up to, but not including, those of 15 years of age.

Propaganda concerning this serious malady is spread to the public by means of a Greeting Message Card being sent to all children upon attaining their first birthday; slides are shown at two picture houses in the district and leaflets distributed, with the co-operation of the Food Office, to those parents applying to be supplied with milk and vitamins for children under five years of age. Much valued assistance was again afforded by the co-operation of the County Medical Officer of Health.

During the summer this propaganda was intensified for a period of six weeks. Co-operation was sought and very kindly given by the Women's Voluntary Service, the British Red Cross Society, the County Nursing Association and the Women's Institute. Particular stress was laid on the value of personal influence that each member might exercise in his/her own parish.

The total number of children who have received complete treatment free under this Council's scheme during the year was 596. Of these 256 were treated by their own doctors, 218 at Child Welfare Centres and 122 at School Clinics.

The percentage of children under five years of age who have been immunised during 1945 was 59.0%, compared with that of 47.14% for the year ending 31st December, 1944. In the case of those children aged five years and over, but under 15, the percentage is 82.0%, as compared with 82.38% for the year 1944.

Infantile Paralysis.

The one case notified which occurred within this District was removed to hospital and recovered. The death shown in the above table was that of a resident within the district who had contracted the infection and died outside the Area.

Measles.

The epidemic was of a mild nature. There were no deaths. Leaflets containing advice on prevention and treatment were obtained by this Council and distributed to mothers within the District through the kind co-operation of the County Medical Officer.

Whooping Cough.

This was prevalent throughout the District. The one death occurred in a child of 9 months of age, who developed Broncho-pneumonia.

Scabies.

This Council, being a Sanitary Authority, has made provision for preventing and curing the condition of scabies, and for securing treatment and disinfection for the members of the households among whom scabies exists.

Arrangements. The Clinics of Eastleigh Borough and the City of Winchester, at which Rural District patients had been permitted to attend for treatment during the war, were closed on 30th June and 30th November respectively. The following is the number of adults and children so treated at these clinics until they were closed:-

	<u>Adults.</u>		<u>Children</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
City of Winchester Clinic	2	11	6	8
Borough of Eastleigh Clinic	-	5	2	1

The Council has now arranged that Benzyl Benzoate (National Formula recommended by the Ministry of Health) is distributed by the Sanitary Inspectors to the homes of those suffering from Scabies, together with appropriate instructions as to how the treatment should be carried out. This arrangement was commenced in October and, so far, the results appear to have been satisfactory. The number of patients so treated were:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Adults	11	11
Children	3	4

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table refers to new cases notified and mortality during the year:-

	NEW CASES						DEATHS				
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	
1945	16	12	-	4	(Total 32)		4	5	3	-	(Total 12)
1944	12	19	4	1	(Total 36)		5	8	4	1	(Total 18)

All cases which are diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis are notified to me. It is to be observed that both notifications and mortality from tuberculosis have decreased as compared with 1944. Of the total number of notifications (32) of new cases, 20 were aged between 20 and 40 years. Of the four non-pulmonary cases, three occurred in children under seven years of age.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Diseases. The ambulances belonging to the City of Winchester and to the County Borough of Southampton respectively, are used when required.

For cases of Ordinary Sickness and Accidents.

1. Such cases are served by a Joint City of Winchester and Rural District Ambulance Service based in Winchester which is available for cases when needed throughout the Rural District. A second ambulance was obtained for this service during the year.
2. The American Ambulance. During the latter months of the war, this Service had been utilised when the above-mentioned joint vehicles were not available for medical cases.
3. The Voluntary Car Pool Service, consisting of a number of cars used to convey cases which did not need a stretcher, ceased to operate in September, 1945.
4. Civil Defence Vehicles. These vehicles, used only in the case of great urgency or accident, ceased to operate as such in June, after the cessation of hostilities in Europe.
5. Red Cross Ambulance. This vehicle, based in Winchester, became available on 1st August, 1945 for civilian cases.
6. The Parishoners of Hedge End formed a Voluntary Ambulance Association, purchasing one of the ^{civil defence} vehicles for the conveyance of urgent cases occurring within the six Southern Parishes of Hamble, Hound, West End, Hedge End, Botley and Bursledon.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Inspection.

All parts of the area have been frequently visited by me, either alone, or with the District Sanitary Inspector.

Housing.

Steady progress has been maintained in the preliminary Rural Housing Survey which was commenced early this year. In all, 2,309 houses have been inspected during the year by the two Survey Officers specially appointed for the purpose and who work under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors. Approximately 28% of the total number (8,000) of houses coming within the scope of the Survey (houses up to, but not exceeding the Rateable

Value of £20) and reports concerning them have been scheduled and placed in the following categories in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, together with a classification of a system of grouping which shews whether public supply services are, or will be, available.

Cato- gory.	Group. "A"	Group "B"	Group "C"	Total
1. Houses satisfactory in all respects	84	56	33	173
2. Houses with minor defects	377	668	457	1,502
3. Houses requiring repairs, structural alterations or improvements	44	214	107	365
4. Houses suitable for reconditioning under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts...	-	44	27	71
5. Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense..	24	61	113	198
Total	529	1043	737	2309

Group Classifications are as follows:-

GROUP "A" Services available, i.e. piped water supply, water carriage sewerage system, gas or electricity "denoting that these services are available but not necessarily connected".

GROUP "B" "Restricted number of services available, others likely to be available in the near future" denoting that one or several of the above services are available but not necessarily connected and those not at present available, may become so in the near future.

GROUP "C" "Rural conditions only; services not available or anticipated to be available in the near future" denoting that these conditions are not likely to be varied.

The repair and maintenance of houses of the working classes still continues to be difficult due to the scarcity of material and labour, but licences have been granted, and the necessary work carried out to maintain weather-tightness, and to repair essential equipment in order to safeguard the health of the occupants and to make premises fit for occupation.

Provision of New Houses.

This District has been allocated 150 temporary houses, together with 26 Swedish Timber houses.

By the end of the year 24 permanent and 12 temporary houses were nearing completion. In all 68 houses were in course of construction.

In addition sites were selected in the following parishes:-

Kings Worthy	Littleton	Colden Common	Hodge End
Botley	Bursledon	West End	Hamble
Fair Oak	Hound	Cheriton	Wonston
Now Alresford	Bishops Sutton	Otterbourne	Compton
Twyford	Micheldever	Easton	Owslebury
Bramdean	Old Alresford	Bighton	Kilmeston
Sutton Scotney	Stoke Charity	East Stratton	Itchen Abbas

The erection of 24 houses by private enterprise had also been commenced, of which ~~four~~ had been completed.

three

WATER SUPPLY - DWELLING HOUSES.

The sources of water supply in the District are derived from chalk strata and the water has been satisfactory generally in quantity and quality. In the more rural parts of the area (those relying on well-water) the dry-weather period affected the yield of water, but in one area only (Bighton) was there such scarcity that this Authority had to make arrangements for the carting of water to supply the village community.

The bulk of the piped water in this District is supplied by the two Local Authorities, the Corporation of Southampton and the Corporation of the City of Winchester. Considerably smaller proportions of the area and the population are supplied by water from the Alresford Water Company and the Crabwood Water Supply. These water undertakings make periodical bacteriological and chemical examination of their water, all of which have been satisfactory.

At Owslebury there is a stand-pipe supply of water, which is supervised by this Council. Forty-nine houses depend on this supply with a population of approximately 225 persons. Insufficiency of supply has been experienced from time to time and the question of an improved supply is being considered.

The Southampton Corporation water main has been extended 2,300 yards in the parish of Botley to give a piped supply of water to fifty properties in Brook Lane and Marls Road.

Seventy-six houses have been connected with a piped supply of water during the year. It is estimated that approximately 82% of the population are connected with the main supply and 69% of the dwelling-houses.

Six samples of water from individual properties were found on examination to be unsatisfactory for drinking purposes. In five of those cases the wells were cleansed and measures taken to exclude surface water contamination which resulted in a satisfactory supply. One well was closed and the property connected with a piped supply.

Agricultural Water Supply. Schemes for the supply and distribution of water, with the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, have progressed during the year, and it is observed also that a number of cottages of the various farms are being connected with a piped supply of water.

RURAL WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE ACT, 1944.

Under this Act it is enacted that Local Authorities shall provide a supply of wholesome water in pipes to every rural locality in their district in which there are sizeable groups of houses, provided it is practicable at a reasonable cost.

The Consultant Engineer engaged by this Council to make a survey of this Rural District, has provided a scheme for a main water supply for the whole of the area not yet covered in conjunction with some of the surrounding Rural Districts.

ITCHEN VALLEY SEWERAGE.

In conjunction with the Winchester City Corporation and Eastleigh Corporation, a scheme to provide a trunk sewer down the Itchen Valley with disposal works at Eastleigh has been envisaged. A firm of Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme to drain the parishes of Compton, Otterbourne, Hursley, Colden Common in the Southern area and part of Itchen Valley, Headbourne Worthy and King's Worthy in the Northern area.

SEWERAGE.

By the end of the year, 363 houses had been connected to the main drainage in the parish of New Alresford. This work was commenced in 1939 and progressed steadily during the war. There now remain approximately 87 houses not yet connected to the sewer.

The Sewerage Scheme for West End, approved by the Ministry of Health during 1938, has not been able to be commenced owing to the war.

SCAVENGING.

At the beginning of the Financial year this Authority adopted a scheme for the combined dry scavenging and salvage for the whole of the Rural District; the charges to be borne by the General rates. Until it was possible to undertake by direct labour the scavenging of the whole of the District, contracts have been entered into for the scavenging of the parishes of Twyford, West End, Hound and Hamble. The frequency of collection of refuse varies with the needs of the various parishes - the more populous parishes once a week, the more rural once a month. Sites for refuse disposal by means of controlled tipping have been selected in suitable places.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACESInspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (with mechanical power)	6	2	nil
Factories (without mechanical power)	60	nil	nil
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	nil	nil	nil.
Total	66	2	nil

CATHERINE AVERY,

October, 1946.

Medical Officer of Health.

Ladies & Genlemen,

I beg to report briefly the year's work of sanitary administration as shown in the routine inspections carried out in the district during the year which are tabulated below:-

Statute.	Nature of Visits.	No. of Inspections.	
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.	(a) Number of Milk Producers registered during year.	-	7
	(b) Inspections for re-constructions, alterations & cleanliness.	109	
	(c) Number of alterations and improvements to dairy premises.		8
Factories Act, 1937.	Inspections	11	
	Re-inspections	55	
Shops Act, 1934.	Routine Inspections of premises.	12	
Food and Drugs Act, 1939	Inspection of Food	129	
Housing Act, 1936, Part II.	(a) Inspection of Cottages	1041	
	(b) Re-inspection of premises	275	
Public Health Act, 1936.	(a) Inspection of premises	283	
	(b) Nuisances found and remedied	156	
	(c) Re-inspection of premises	1197	
	(d) Water Supply Inspections	138	
	(e) Infectious Diseases - Visits and Disinfections	171	
Rat & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 Rodent Control.	(a) Number of premises surveyed	1727	
	(b) Number of premises treated		717
Interviews			275
	Samples of well-water examined		28
	Number reported polluted		8
Total.		5304	

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HURST, M.S.I.A.

